

Mrs. Bowser Tells It

Bowser Goes Out to Hunt the Chestnut

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By M. QUAD.

For several days I have observed a spirit of restlessness about Mr. Bowser, and I had made up my mind that he was longing for a trip out into the country. In his conversations he spoke of the chestnuts and acorns; he mentioned the rabbit; he spoke of the fall apple, and so I knew that he would take a day off soon and refresh his boyhood memories.

Mr. Bowser came down to breakfast one morning prepared for a jaunt and he said to me:

"I think I will take a little trip out into the country today. I want to saunter around and see farm scenes. I want to pick up the great brown chestnuts under the trees. I want to pick the golden pippin right off the apple tree. I want to buy a quart of buttermilk of some farmer and drink it down without stopping, to breathe. It seems as if it would almost make me over to spend the day out in the country."

"There's nothing to hinder you from going," I replied. "In fact, I want you

farmer was at his gate as I got off the car, and the first question I asked him was:

"Is Mr. Bowser dead?"

"Why, no, ma'am," he replied. "Come right in and you'll see him alive. No need to be alarmed about him."

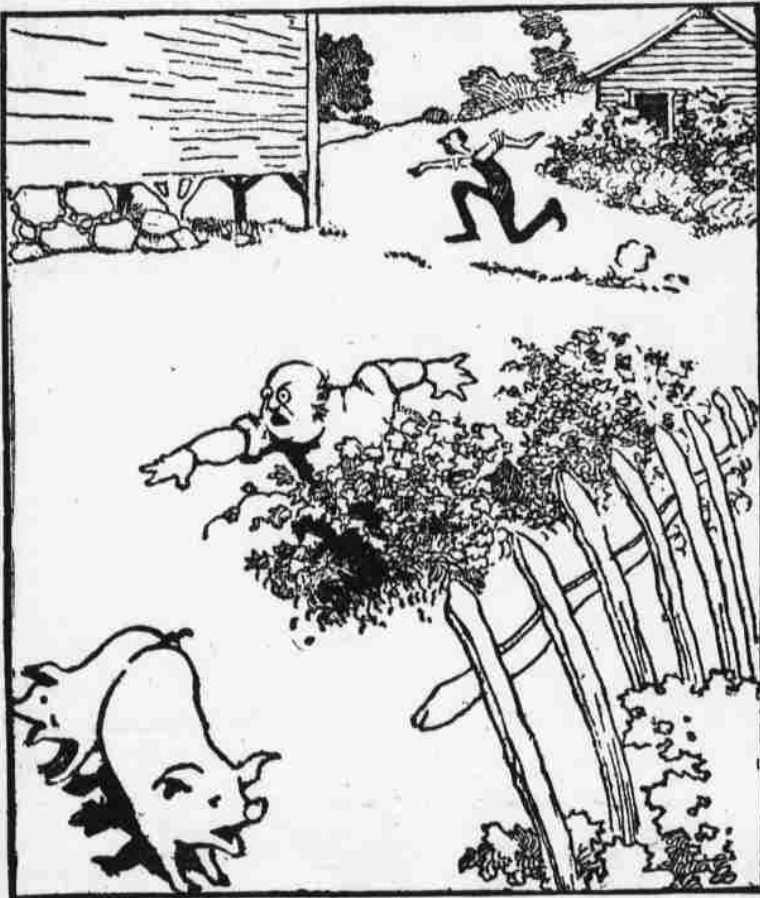
I went in and found Mr. Bowser in bed. That is, I supposed it was Mr. Bowser, for it was some time before I was certain of his identity.

I had a few words to say in praise of the man and he went on:

"I have four hives of bees. I wanted to move them to a new place to pass the winter. I mentioned it to Mr. Bowser and he offered to help me. Two men can carry a beehive very nice. All you have to do is to place a piece of paper over the hole where they come in and go out. Then you can carry the hive between you. Mr. Bowser told me that he was not afraid of bees, but he had always loved them and they seemed to love him. He was very anxious to help me, and, of course, I was willing he should. We had to pass over some rough ground to reach the new place and I warned him that we must go slow and carefully. We had got half the distance with the hive all right when he strikes his foot against something in the grass and down he goes and down goes the hive, for I couldn't manage it alone. You can imagine, ma'am, what happened then."

"Yes," I said.

"The hive went down with a crash, and the bees came pouring out. I was scared, which I shouldn't have been, and I took to my heels. Mr. Bowser got up and took to his heels also, but he ran into a currant bush



"He Ran Into a Currant Bush and Got Tangled Up."

to go, for you look a little weary. Will you bring home some chestnuts and apples?"

"You bet your life, and don't forget to let me take a basket along. Maybe I will gather some mushrooms, also. At any rate, I will make a day of it and come home feeling as fit as a fiddle."

"You will telephone if anything happens to you? Most of the farmers have telephones."

"Oh, nothing will happen to telephone about. It will be a very quiet day with me."

In half an hour Mr. Bowser was off, carrying a market basket on his arm. He was as pleased as a boy on his way to a circus.

It was about two o'clock in the afternoon when the telephone rang me up and a strange voice asked:

"Is this Mrs. Bowser?"

"Yes."

"Mrs. Samuel Bowser?"

"Yes, that is correct. Who are you, please?"

"My name is Ballard, and I'm a farmer about ten miles from the city on the old Boston road. Can't you take the trolley car, which runs right by my door, and come out here?"

"But why should I come out there?" I asked, a chill of fear coming over me.

"Because there's a short, fat, bald-headed man here who says he's Samuel Bowser, your husband. He isn't dead, so you needn't be alarmed. He has simply met with an accident and maybe you will have to stay for a day or two, but I'll make it as pleasant as I can. Mr. Bowser sent you his love and thinks you'd better come out."

"Do you mean that an accident has happened to Mr. Bowser?" I asked.

"Well, you might call it an accident, but I call it an incident. An incident is where you cut your foot with the ax, but Mr. Bowser hasn't cut his foot. An accident is when you fall out of a tree and break both legs, and Mr. Bowser has had no fall and no broken legs. You had better put on your bonnet and come out."

I tried hard to get the farmer to tell me just what had happened, but he seemed to have good reasons for holding back the truth. This increased my fears, of course, and I soon got ready for a trip. All the way out to Farmer Ballard's I was so pale and nervous that all the passengers on the car noticed me, and three or four women came over to me and said they hoped that nothing serious had occurred. The

"I Want to Pick Up the Great Brown Chestnuts Under the Trees."

offer him a hand glass that he might see what a beauty he was. The only thing to do was to apply things to take out the poison and reduce the swellings, and to help the farmer as I could until his wife got back. I stayed there all that night and most of the next day, and, when I left for home, Mr. Bowser could partly open one eye and utter grunts through his swollen lips. It was four days before he came home, and then several passengers on the car asked him if a tree had fallen all over him. He didn't say much when he reached the house. All he did say was:

"Mrs. Bowser, if this thing occurs again I will see my lawyer and you will see yours, and we will arrange for a quiet divorce. We have reached the dead line at last!"

I realized that Mr. Bowser must blame someone beside himself, and I didn't "sass" back a single word.

GREAT DRIVE FOR SHIPYARD HELP

Call for 250,000 Volunteers to Aid in Speeding the New Merchant Fleet.

TO BE READY WHEN CALLED

Reserve Organization Formed to Complete Gigantic Program to Win War—Good Pay and Living Conditions.

The United States Shipyard Volunteers of the Public Service Reserve, a reserve organization of American mechanics, skilled workers in many lines of trade, has been formed to bring to completion the gigantic shipbuilding program necessary to win the war. Two hundred and fifty thousand workmen are to be enrolled and they will stand ready, when called to go to the shipyards and speed America's merchant fleet to completion.

An appeal for volunteers has been made by the department of labor, the council of national defense, the shipping board, the 20,000 four-minute men, governors of the various states, organized labor and business men. The aim is to fill all the present and future needs of the government's shipyards.

Pay of volunteers will be in accordance with the prevailing wage in the shipyards at the time they are called. Construction of houses for the workers is being pushed with energy, and the necessary homes will be ready when the men are called.

Preliminaries Are Arranged. All preliminary work, such as the building of shipyards and shipways, construction of housing facilities, preparation and transportation of material, and the training of workmen, is being rushed to completion. Thus the organization of the shipyard volunteers is being hastened with energy and enthusiasm.

Volunteers are requested to go to the nearest enrollment agent of the public service reserve or state council of defense and sign up. Should there be no enrolling agent in the vicinity, they are asked to write to Edward N. Hurley, chairman of the United States shipping board, Washington.

Cards are issued to all applicants, bearing statements of the purpose of the shipyard volunteers, classifying them according to trades and asking signers to respond when called. Buttons will be given to volunteers bearing the inscription, "U. S. Shipyard Volunteers." This button is to be an honorary recognition of the wearer's willingness to sacrifice personal desires for public need. In addition, the worker will receive a certificate signed by Chairman Hurley, which reads:

"This is to certify (name of volunteer) of (city, state), has enrolled in the United States Shipyard Volunteers of Public Service Reserve to aid the nation in its imperative needs for merchant ships with which to overcome the submarine menace and maintain our forces at the front."

Quota of Each State. Each state has been assigned a quota, based upon the population and industries. The quota is as follows:

Maine	2,972	New Jersey.....	11,348
New Hampshire.....	1,698	Pennsylvania.....	22,771
Vermont.....	1,350	Ohio	19,802
Massachusetts.....	14,321	Indiana	10,847
Rhode Island.....	2,355	Illinois	22,662
Connecticut.....	4,786	Michigan	11,734
New York	39,626	Wisconsin.....	9,611
Minnesota.....	8,762	Alabama	8,994
Iowa	8,631	Mississippi.....	7,488
Missouri.....	11,812	Arkansas.....	6,022
North Dakota.....	2,684	Louisiana.....	7,064
South Dakota.....	2,393	Oklahoma.....	8,462
Nebraska.....	4,400	Texas	17,023
Kansas	6,330	Montana.....	1,583
Delaware.....	811	Idaho	1,621
Maryland.....	6,250	Wyoming.....	618
Dist. of Col.....	1,290	Colorado.....	8,320
Virginia.....	8,453	New Mexico.....	1,428
West Virginia.....	5,837	Arizona.....	888
North Carolina.....	9,294	Utah.....	1,660
South Carolina.....	6,253	Nevada.....	236
Georgia.....	11,001	Washington.....	8,906
Florida.....	3,435	Oregon.....	8,204
Kentucky.....	8,290	California.....	11,316
Tennessee.....	7,952		

Trades Needed in Shipbuilding. The department of labor has provided the following list showing the kind of trades most needed in shipbuilding, and a special appeal is addressed to men in those occupations to enroll in the United States Shipyard volunteers:

Acetylene and electrical welders, asbestos workers, blacksmiths, angle-smiths, drop-forge men, flange turners, furnace men, boiler-makers, riveters, reamers, carpenters, ship carpenters, dock builders, chippers and calkers, electrical workers, electricians, wiremen, crane operators, foundry workers, laborers (all kinds), loftsmen, template makers, machinists and machine hands (all sorts), helpers, painters, plumbers and pipe fitters, sheet metal workers, copper-smiths, shipfitters, structural iron workers, erectors, bolters up, cementers and crane men.

Life's Inspirations. There is no greater joy than the feeling that some act of ours has inspired another to be brave and strong. One of the beautiful things about right doing is that it is an inspiration to others. No life is a real success which has not scattered inspiration along the way.

Just Human Nature. Another reason why a man is a man is because he would rather lose \$50 in a speculation than 50 cents through a hole in his pocket.—Dallas News.

Effective Weapon of Ancients.

Among the simplest and yet one of the most effective inventions of ancient times was the javelin with a point of soft iron employed by Julius Caesar in his Gallic wars. The Roman legionaries hurled these weapons against the shields of their enemies. The iron head penetrated the outer covering of bulls' hide, but flattened against the hard wood or metal back of the shield, and thus became hooked to this protector. The shanks of the dangling javelins so impeded the movement of the barbarian soldiers that they were forced either to throw away their shields and fight uncovered against the Romans or else stop long enough (a fatal delay in their advance) to dislumber themselves from this unique weapon, which may properly be called the dum-dum pilum, the progenitor of the soft-nose, or dum-dum, bullet of today.

Colonies Loyal to France.

Although St. Lucia is under the British flag, the favorite language of the inhabitants is French—either a fairly pure French or an almost unintelligible patois. In this St. Lucia is only one example of a phenomenon that the traveler meets all over the world—the tenacious spiritual hold of France upon all her ancient colonies. France lost by far the greater part of her empire through military weakness, and even that part which she holds today she does not govern with any conspicuous efficiency. Either England or the United States administer colonies in a way far better for all concerned. But while the old French colonies change flags, they always remain loyal to the French tradition in language and in sympathies. There are a dozen instances of this in the West Indies. The French-Canadian furnish another.

New Terms of Government.

The terms initiative and referendum and recall relate to certain proposed changes in the form and administration of popular government. By the initiative is meant the right of a certain percentage of voters to originate and propose laws which the legislature must either pass or submit to the people for their action. The referendum means that certain laws passed by the legislature shall not be effective until they have been submitted to a popular vote and approved by the people. The recall means the right of the people by an adverse vote to end the term of any elective officer before the expiration of the term for which he was elected. These principles in different forms and varying in details have been adopted in several states.

OLD WOMAN IS KILLED

Lived for Years in a Place Built for Chickens.

J. K. Ewing, humane officer of East St. Louis, and Mrs. Jane Law, truant officer, recently asked County Judge Messick for an order to commit Mrs. Anstee Latteur, eighty-five years old, to an asylum or home. This action was taken after it was learned that until recently Mrs. Thompson lived in a shed in the rear of the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. Inez Thompson, at No. 1227 North Forty-ninth street. A part of the shed was used as a chicken house.

Since fire threatened the shed last Monday, Mrs. Latteur has lived in her granddaughter's kitchen. Mrs. Thompson told Ewing her grandmother was feeble and unable to walk and had been satisfied with her quarters in the shed.

GREATEST SHEEP PENS

Gigantic Pens at Denver Have Capacity of 350,000 Head.

Occupying a floor space of more than eight acres, Denver has opened the largest sheep sheds in the world. The only exercises dedicating the immense structure was the "turning in" of nearly 35,000 sheep into the pens on the upper and lower decks.

The building is double decked, and constructed so that other decks can be added if required. At present the shed has a capacity of 350,000 head. It is of solid concrete, reinforced by steel; is 490 feet long and 380 feet wide.

The structure cost \$150,000.

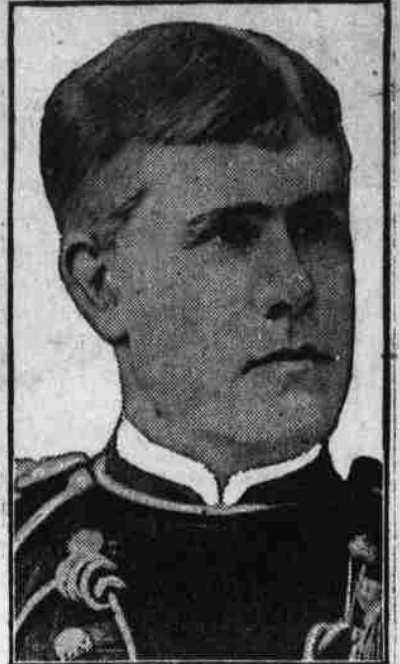
Time for Strategy.

There is no such thing as returning to the days of one's youth. If there were and we were asked if the teacher licked us, our reply would be "Not exactly; we made a strategic retirement after almost losing the seat of our trousers."—Houston Post.

Floods in Brazil.

The native inhabitants of Brazil have lately been suffering from the disastrous effects of the flooding of the Amazon, whose relentless waters have submerged the countryside for hundreds of miles around. At regular intervals this mighty river overflows its banks, and a famous traveler estimated that no fewer than 5,000,000 natives have lost their lives during the last five centuries through these terrible floods.

AMERICAN GENERAL IS GIVEN CROSS OF WAR



To Brig. Gen. George B. Duncan goes the honor of being the first American general to receive a decoration from our allies in this war. Together with Maj. Campbell King, he was awarded the Cross of War by France, for his participation in the recent Verdun offensive, where both he and Major King acted as observation officers in advanced artillery posts. They worked under fire and a piece of shell struck the steel helmet of General Duncan.

The citation in the French award to General Duncan read: "He assisted our forces under circumstances of extreme danger during a very violent bombardment at Verdun."

General Duncan was born in Lexington and is a graduate of the Kentucky Military Institute at Louisville, Ky. He has seen many years service in the army, including some time in the Philippines and on the border.

Neatly Put.

We are told that Tom Hood liked best to work in a serious vein, on such poems as "The Bridge of Sighs." As he put it himself: "It's only for my livelihood that I'm a lively Hood."—Boston Transcript.

All About W. S. S.

WHAT Are They?

They are War Savings Stamps.

They are of two kinds—United States Thrift Stamps (25c each). United States War Savings Stamps (\$4.12 plus 1 cent for each month since January).

Sixteen U. S. Thrift Stamps plus from 12 to 23 cents in cash will purchase a War Savings Stamp, which when affixed to a War Savings Certificate is the guarantee of the Government and the people of the United States to repay on January 1, 1923, the full amount with interest at 4% compounded quarterly.

The U. S. Thrift card is a pocket-sized card given free of charge to purchasers of U. S. Thrift Stamps.

The War Savings Certificate is a pocket-sized folder given to holders of War Savings Stamps. War Savings Stamps are as safe as the United States.

WHY Should I Buy Them?

Because we are at war;

Because the more we save, the more labor and material will be available for the use of the government and for the support of our army;

Because we must have dollars as well as men in the fight for freedom;

Because they establish the soundest and simplest basis of saving, which is the key to individual success;

Because there is no safer investment in the world;

Because War Savings Stamps must increase each month in value.

HOW Can I Buy Them?

As simple as buying postage stamps.

This is the simplest security ever offered by a great government to its people. Any man, woman or child who can save twenty-five cents can obtain at any Postoffice or Bank a U. S. Government Thrift Stamp and a thrift card to which to attach it. This starts you as an investor, and puts you behind the Government.

WHEN Shall I Buy Them?

Buy them NOW, because the cost increases one cent every month after January 31, 1918.

The sooner you buy them the less they cost.

The price of War Savings Stamps increases one cent each month until in December, 1918, when the price is \$4.23.

The cost is as follows:

Jan.....	\$4.12	Apr.....	\$4.15	July.....	\$4.18	Oct.....	\$4.21
Feb.....	4.13	May.....	4.16	Aug.....	4.19	Nov.....	4.22
Mar.....	4.14	June.....	4.17	Sept.....	4.20	Dec.....	4.23

No commissions are charged to you, or paid to any one.

Our soldiers and sailors may give their lives; you are asked only to lend your money.

WHERE Can I Buy Them?

At any Postoffice, Bank, Trust Company, and many other authorized selling agencies.



Every Stamp Helps to Save a Life!
Every Stamp Helps to End the War!

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